

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for combining delivery of first objects from a first transport conveyor (34) with second objects from a second transport conveyor (40), comprising:

    a first continuous discharge conveyor (36) for transporting the first objects received from the first transport conveyor, the first continuous discharge conveyor comprising a discharge end;

    a second continuous discharge conveyor (42) for receiving the second objects from the second transport conveyor, the second continuous discharge conveyor comprising a receiving end with a longitudinal axis, and a discharge end, and being rotatable about the longitudinal axis;

    means for pivoting the second discharge conveyor about the longitudinal axis between a lower position in which the discharge ends of the first discharge conveyor and the second discharge conveyor are adjacent, and an upper position in which the discharge ends of the first discharge conveyor and the second discharge conveyor are spaced apart sufficiently to accommodate the first objects therebetween; and

    means for synchronizing the pivoting means with discharge of the first objects from the

first discharge conveyor and discharge of the second objects from the second discharge conveyor.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the pivoting means comprises a linear actuator (48).

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the synchronizing means comprises a logic controller (28).

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first objects and second objects are tortillas, and the first and second transport conveyors are tortilla press conveyors.

5. (Withdrawn)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Withdrawn)

9. (Withdrawn)

10. (New) An apparatus for combining delivery of first objects from a first transport conveyor with second objects from a second transport conveyor, comprising:

a first continuous discharge conveyor for transporting the first objects received from the first transport conveyor, the first

continuous discharge conveyor comprising a discharge end;

a second continuous discharge conveyor for receiving the second objects from the second transport conveyor, the second continuous discharge conveyor comprising a receiving end with a longitudinal axis, and a discharge end, and being rotatable about the longitudinal axis;

means for pivoting the second discharge conveyor about the longitudinal axis between a lower position in which the discharge ends of the first discharge conveyor and the second discharge conveyor are adjacent, and an upper position in which the discharge ends of the first discharge conveyor and the second discharge conveyor are spaced apart sufficiently to accommodate the first objects therebetween; and

means for synchronizing the pivoting means with discharge of the first objects from the first discharge conveyor and discharge of the second objects from the second discharge conveyor;

wherein the pivoting means comprises a linear actuator.

11. (New) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the synchronizing means comprises a logic controller.

12. (New) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the first objects and second objects are tortillas, and the first and second transport conveyors are tortilla press conveyors.

13. (New) An apparatus for combining delivery of first objects from a first transport conveyor with second objects from a second transport conveyor, comprising:

a continuous receiving conveyor;

a first continuous discharge conveyor for transporting the first objects received from the first transport conveyor to the receiving conveyor, the first continuous discharge conveyor comprising a discharge end;

a second continuous discharge conveyor for transporting the second objects received from the second transport conveyor to the receiving conveyor, the second continuous discharge conveyor comprising a receiving end with a longitudinal axis, and a discharge end, and being rotatable about the longitudinal axis;

means for pivoting the second discharge conveyor about the longitudinal axis between a lower position in which the discharge end of the second discharge conveyor is adjacent to the receiving conveyor and an upper position in which the discharge end of the second discharge conveyor is spaced apart from the receiving conveyor sufficiently to

accommodate the first objects therebetween;  
and

means for synchronizing the pivoting means  
with discharge of the first objects from the  
first discharge conveyor and discharge of  
the second objects from the second discharge  
conveyor.